

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05
EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06
LAB-04 SIL-01 /093 W
-----100209Z 106042 /21

R 091735Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8118
INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 08004

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, GW
SUBJECT: FRG UNEMPLOYMENT PICTURE DISAPPOINTING

REF: BONN 07692

SUMMARY: EVEN THOUGH THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED
IN THE FRG DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN APRIL, SEASONALLY
ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT ROSE. THE RELATIVELY POOR SHOW-
ING ELICITED A WAVE OF DISAPPOINTMENT
WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SPD/FDP AND GENERATED
MORE EXPRESSIONS OF DISSATISFACTION FROM THE OPPOSI-
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TION. END SUMMARY.

1. AN OVERVIEW OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT PICTURE IN THE FRG
FOLLOWS (ALL TOTALS IN THOUSANDS; ALL RATES IN PER-
CENTAGES);

UNEMPLOYMENT	COMPARISONS
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	APRIL 77		MAR 77		APRIL 76	
	TOTAL	RATE	TOTAL	RATE	TOTAL	RATE
SEAS. ADJ.	1,003		993		1,065	
NON-SEAS.	1,039.4	4.6	1,084.2	4.8	1,093.7	4.8
ADJ.						
MEN	522.8	3.6	569.6	4.0	593.1	4.1
WOMEN	516.6	6.1	514.7	6.1	500.7	5.9
REG.JOB	246.4		244.1		231.9	
OPENINGS						

TABLE (CONT'D)

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPARISONS

	APRIL 77		MAR 77		APRIL 76	
	TOTAL	RATE	TOTAL	RATE	TOTAL	RATE
PART TIME	241.6		257.8		355.5	
WORKERS						
FOREIGN	98.2	4.8	102.8	5.1	120.1	5.8
WORKERS						
YOUTH	89.4	4.0	99.3	4.5	96.3	4.3
(UNDER 20)						

2. THE FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ATTRIBUTES THE DECLINE IN NON-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT EXCLUSIVELY TO SEASONAL INFLUENCES, SUCH AS NEW HIRINGS IN THE OUTDOOR OCCUPATIONS (CONSTRUCTION, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, ETC.). UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION

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INDUSTRY, FOR EXAMPLE, DECLINED 17,100 OR 23.9 PERCENT TO 54,400.

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EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
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LAB-04 SIL-01 /093 W

-----100210Z 099115 /21

R 091735Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8119
INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN
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3. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT INCREASED IN
APRIL BY 10,000 TO 1,003,000 (SEE REFTEL FOR FURTHER
COMMENT).

4. GEOGRAPHICALLY, APRIL UNEMPLOYMENT WAS MOST
SEVERE IN LOWER SAXONY-BREMEN WITH 5.5 PERCENT,
FOLLOWED BY NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA AND NORTH BAVARIA
WITH 5.1 PERCENT EACH, AND RHINELAND-PALATINATE-SAAR-
LAND WITH 5.0 PERCENT EACH. BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG AGAIN
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REGISTERED THE LOWEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WITH 2.8
PERCENT, THE NEXT LOWEST BEING SOUTH BAVARIA WITH
3.9 PERCENT WHICH REMOVED HESSE (NOW CLAIMING 4.1
PERCENT) FROM THE SECOND PLACE IT CLAIMED IN PREVIOUS
MONTHS.

5. STATEMENTS BY GOVERNMENT AND SPD/FDP COALITION
SPOKESMEN REFLECTED DISAPPOINTMENT AND SOME
FRUSTRATION. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN, ARMIN GRUENEWALD,
ANNOUNCED A "CRITICAL REVIEW" OF CURRENT MANPOWER
PROGRAMS. SPD BUNDESTAG DEPUTY EUGEN GLOMBIG CALLED
FOR A "GLOBAL POLICY ORIENTED TOWARD JOB CREATION AND
A REDUCTION OF WORKING HOURS., WHILE FDP REPRESENTA-
TIVES URGED ADDITIONAL "INVESTMENT INCENTIVES".

CSU CHAIRMAN STRAUSS LABELED THE CONTINUING HIGH LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT AS A "SCANDAL" FOR WHICH THE GOVERNMENT'S INFLATIONARY FINANCE AND ECONOMIC POLICY SINCE 1969 WAS RESPONSIBLE. THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, STINGL, SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S GOAL TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT TO AN AVERAGE LEVEL OF 850,000 THIS YEAR WOULD BE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE.
STOESSEL.

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Disposition Remarks:
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